equal respect to all religions, rejection of violence, communal rivalries and tensions, liberation from superstitions and prejudices etc. It is also ensured that the serial is fit for family viewing and at the same time it entertains, educates|informs.

Films for telecast on the national network and from other kendras are selected on the basis of the following broad criteria:

(1) National/International/State Awards won;

(2) Thematic value;

(3) Cinematic value;

(4) Entertainment value;

(5) Suitability for family viewing; and

(6) Year of production.

(b) and (c) In order to improve the standard of TV serials and have them handled by creative people in the field of art and films, a new Scheme for approval of Sponsored Serials was formulated by the Government. Under this Scheme, Doordarshan would register producers/directors for production of sponsored serails. However, so far, Doordarshan has not registered any such producers/directors. In future, proposals for Sponsored Programmes would be invited only from those producers/directors who are registered with Doordarshan.

The new scheme was publicised through national dailies and applications from interested parties for registration as producers/directors were invited through those papers. People who would be registered as producers/directors would be selected from those who have applied in response to the advertisement. Threfore, it cannot be said that discrimination would be shown by Doordarshan to any producer/director.

Further, the new scheme is applicable in respect of only the sponsored serials. Doordarshan has been commissioning and would continue to commission outside producers|directors to make tele-films, serials, documentaries etc. on Doordarshan's finance under a different scheme.

Telecast of Uttar Ramayan and Mahabharat

632. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the last date of final episode of Uttar Ramayan and Mahabharat serials according to present schedule respectively; and

(b) which are the other epics likely to be telecast this year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) According to the present schedule, the final episode of serial 'Ramayan' will be telecast on 1-9-89 and that of 'Mahabharat' on 24-9-89.

(b) No other epic is likely to be telecast during this year.

Model Act for Municipal Corporation

633. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a Model Act for All Municipal Corporations in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India had set up a Committee to consider and recommend a 'Single Municipal Corporation Act' for the entire country. The Committee has prepared a Model Act which will be submitting to the Government very soon.

(c) Does not arise.